GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2658
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2016
Quality of Piped Water
Chinnaraj Shri Gopalakrishnan;Gavit Dr. Heena Vijaykumar;Karandlaje Km. Shobha;Satav Shri Rajeev Shankarrao;Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to poor quality of drinking water being supplied through pipelines, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;
(b) whether Central Consumer Protection Council (CCPC) has expressed concern over quality of drinking water being supplied through pipelines and has recommended mandatory standard for drinking water irrespective of its source, if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether CCPC has also asked the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India to formulate standards for water being supplied through pipelines also and to monitor its quality;
(d) if so, the details thereof and the response received thereon;
(e) whether complaints of overcharging for packaged water have been received by the Government; and
(f) if so, the details thereof and the corrective action proposed in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (d) : In its 30th meeting held on 19th April, 2016 the Central Consumer Protection Council expressed concern about the quality of drinking water and observed that potable water should be made available to all. The Council recommended that the Food safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) may be asked to develop and adopt standards for piped drinking water.

(e) & (f) : Complaints are received regarding overcharging of food items including bottled water. As per Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, the maximum retail price inclusive of all taxes is required to be printed on every package. No retail dealer or other person including manufacturer, packer, importer and wholesale dealer shall make any sale of any commodity in packed form at a price exceeding the retail sale price thereof. The Legal Metrology Act, 2009 provides for penalty for violation of declarations on the package. The provisions of the Act are enforced by the State Governments.
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